provisions of Public Financial Institutions (Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, names of such concerns cannot be divulged.

Credit Cards by Standard Chartered

2094. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAM BHAJIRAO SHINDE: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standard Chartered Bank (Stanchart) has launched a new series of Credit Cards with photos, to prevent the alleged white collar, crime, involving Rs. 1800 crores of plastic money in the Indian market; and

(b) whether as reported, over 11.2% of the 1.2 million credit cards under circulation in India are counterfeit and what steps are being taken to prevent circulation of this counterfeit plastic money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Standard Chartered Bank has launched a new series of Credit Cards with photos. But it is not aware of the white collar crimes involving Rs. 1800 crores of plastic money in the Indian market. As reported by public sector banks, private sector banks and foreign banks, 886 cases of frauds involving an amount of Rs. 270.10 lakhs, had taken place during the years 1992-93 to 1994-95. RBI has further stated that counterfeit cards are only one of the kinds of frauds prevalent in credit cards business. Banks have, however, not reported to RBI incidence of frauds perpetrated by way of counterfeit credit cards.

Export of Handicrafts

2095. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the trend of handicrafts export during the last three years and how do they compare with the 1990-91 figures;

(b) the names of the top five States in handicrafts exports;

(c) the names of the top five destination countries to which these handicrafts are exported; and

(d) what steps are being taken to boost these exports?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) There has been an increasing trend in exports of handicrafts from the country during the last three years as compared to the 1990-91 which is evident from the export figures given below:—

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Export of handicrafts including handknotted carpets
1990-91	1434.38
1992-93	2522.97
1993-94	3360.20
1994-95	4458.30

(b) The States are Uttar Pradesh, Jammu Kashmir, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.

(c) The top five destination countries to which handicrafts are exported in order are the USA, Germany, United Kingdom, France and Japan.

(d) The steps taken to boost the export of handicrafts including handknotted carpets include sponsoring of sales-cum-study teams abroad, participation in international fairs/festivals, organisation of buyer-seller-meets, overseas publicity and publication of catalogues, conducting of seminars and workshop and organisation

of India Handicrafts and Gifts Fair and All India Carpet Fair annually.

Comprehensive Broadcasting Bill

2096. SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formed a Parliamentary Panel to examine all aspects of functioning of Doordarshan and All India Radio to evolve a comprehensive national media policy; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring a comprehensive broadcasting bill before the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) A Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee of MPs attached to this Ministry has been constituted to prepare a positional/Working Paper on Media Policy. Government is also in the process of finalising a comprehensive broadcasting law for the country.

व्यापक कर अपवंचन

2097. **श्री सोमपाल:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ कंपनियां व्यापक कर अपवंचन के लिए और भारत को कर की भारी रकम से वंचित करने के लिये कुछ अन्य देशों के माध्यम से निवेश करने की कोशिश कर रही हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने ऐसी कंपनियों की सूची तैयार की है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और ऐसी अवांछित गतिविधियों से निपटने के लिये सरकार क्या-क्या ठोस कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० वी० चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति): (क) से (ग) भारत में उन कम्पनियों की आय का कराधान जो अन्य देशों के माध्यम से निवेश कर रही हैं, संबंधित देशों के साथ हुए दोहरे कराधान के परिहार के समझौते द्वारा संशोधित घरेलू कर कानून से नियंत्रित किया जाता है। अतः इस प्रक्रिया से कर अपवंचन का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Writing off outstanding Loans of States

2098. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have received any representation from the State Governments urging the Centre to write off their outstanding loans due from them;

(b) if so, what are the names of the States from whom such representations have been received and the amount of loan outstanding against each state as on March 31, 1995; and

(c) whether Government have taken any decision in this regard and if so, the amount of outstanding loans which Government have decided or propose to write off in each case and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MUTHRY): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be furnished.

Government Directors Involved in ITC Dispute

2099. DR. SANJAYA SINH:
SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:
SHRI RAMJI LAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government directors have become personally involved in the affairs pertaining to disputes in ITC Limited;

(b) whether Government have made any enquiry on the role played by